



Image

1771

**PATENT APPLICATION
Q56361**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of
Yoshikazu KANEKO, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/424,300

Group Art Unit: 1771 ✓

Confirmation No.: 7799

Examiner: Andrew T. Piziali

Filed: March 13, 2000

For: STEEL WIRE AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned attorney hereby states that, based upon information and belief, each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and that the communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul F. Neils
Registration No. 33,102
for
Steven M. Gruskin
Registration No. 36,818

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: April 9, 2004



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 AND 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified), which the Examiner may deem material to the patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, along with a copy of a Communication from the EPO in connection with a counterpart foreign application (EP 98 92 1721).

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of

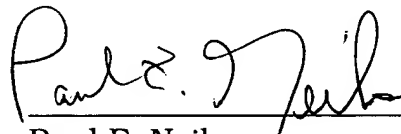
Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier) and, therefore, Applicants are filing concurrently herewith a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within thirty days from the date of issuance of the above-noted EPO Communication and, therefore, a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d) is also attached.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees (except the Issue Fee and/or the Publication Fee) to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is also attached.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul F. Neils
Registration No. 33,102
for
Steven M. Gruskin
Registration No. 36,818

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

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Substitute for Form PTO-1449 A & B

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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of

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Complete if Known

Application No.	09/424,300
Confirmation No.	7799
Filing Date	March 13, 2000
First Named Inventor	Yoshikazu KANEKO
Art Unit	1771
Examiner Name	Andrew T. Piziali
Attorney Docket	Q56361

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
	AA	4,960,473	A	10/02/1990	Kim, et al.
	AB	1,824,568	A	09/22/1931	Pierce
	AC				
	AD				
	AE				
	AF				
	AG				
	AH				
	AI				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
	AJ	EP	0 537 618	A1	04/21/1993	Goodyear Tire & Rubber	
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
	AO						

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
	AP	Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 1996, No. 02 (02/29/1996) as it relates to JP 7-265936 A (10/17/1995) assigned to Nippon Steel Corp.	
	AQ		
	AR		
	AS		
	AT		
	AU		

Examiner
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Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.